

Texas Tech University School of Law

Lubbock, Texas

Juris Doctor, 2005

Texas Tech University

Lubbock, Texas

B.B.A. Economics, Minor Political Science, 2001

- Graduated with Honors in Economics
- Graduated from the Honors College
- Graduated in 3.5 years in the top 10% of class

TIME TO SELL BASTROP

I absolutely love Bastrop and would cherish the opportunity to sell Bastrop all over the state and U.S. I am not just an experienced litigator who successfully served as lead counsel on over 262 lawsuits. A vast majority of those lawsuits involved property issues, non-profit governance, business, contract, and consumer law matters- all matters relevant to leading the Bastrop EDC. I also served in leadership roles for over a dozen non-profits, commissions, and committees in the city of Denton and Denton County for over a decade. I oversaw and led two strategic business plans for both the Denton Chamber of Commerce and the Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County. Both those plans took about a year to accomplish and included budgeting for growth, facility construction, developing a brand, developing new websites, coordinating fundraising events, and increasing community awareness/participation and donor base. I also oversaw the budgets of many of these organizations through those roles as chair, president, and/or board of director. These budgets are comparable size to the Bastrop Economic Development Corporation's budget. I did all this work for these organizations as a volunteer during my free-time. Imagine what I can accomplish for the Bastrop EDC as a full-time paid director. Time to put me to work on our strategic plan and future of Bastrop and Bastrop EDC.

PROFESSIONAL WORK HISTORY

Sawko & Burroughs, LLP

Associate Attorney, 2005-2011

I started my career at the right place. I began my legal career in 2005 as an associate attorney with the Mayor of our town, Mark Burroughs. It was here I developed my sense of Servant Leadership. My very first lawsuit was filed on behalf of a non-profit, the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home. I volunteered my services for free to help them obtain a parcel of land. This land was ultimately sold to pay for one of their cottages that housed up to ten homeless and/or abandoned children. I also began my business litigation, property law, non-profit, and tax legal work at this firm. For the next six years, I grew as a person, lawyer, and Christian helping others professionally and personally.

Elsey & Elsey

Junior Partner, 2011-2014

I decided it was time to expand my areas of practice, so I moved to Elsey & Elsey in 2011 to learn family law from one of the best in our area, Chad Elsey. The Elsey family also has a service-over-self-mentality, which is another reason I joined with them. In return, I helped the Elseys establish, develop, and then manage their own property tax collection business and staff, and grew that business into four-employee \$300-400k a year side venture for the firm. This success is the reason they made me partner of their father-son team, which as an honor.

Cameron Cox, PC & Shanklin & Cox, LLP

Owner/Partner, 2014-2018

I was ready for another challenge, so I left Elsey & Elsey in 2014 to start my own firm. I was a Partner/Owner of this firm. I left this firm and joined Denton, Navarro, Rocha, Bernal & Zech after a chance meeting with shareholder Charlie Zech who convinced me to move.

Denton, Navarro, Rocha, Bernal & Zech

Senior Associate, 2018-Present

As you know, I serve as the attorney for a number of economic development corporations and municipal governments. I have many years' experience serving in this capacity and will bring that experience to Bastrop EDC.

MY COMMUNITY SERVICE & LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

I am devoted to the protection of abused and forgotten children. I filed my first lawsuit pro-bono for the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home. I've supported and continue to help a number of organizations ensuring children are protected and their voices are heard. Those are listed below and include: Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County, the Nelson Children's Home, and the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home.

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Chair of the Board, 2013-2014

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Vice-Chair, 2011-2013

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Executive Committee, 2012-2016

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Board Member, 2010-2017

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Nominations Committee, 2012-2016

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Development Committee, 2010-2016

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Facilities Committee, 2011-2016

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Gala Committee, 2011-2012

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County Golf Tournament Committee, 2006-2009

Nelson Children's Center Advisory Board Member, 2009-2012

United Way "Pillar of Justice" Bronze Member, 2008-2010

United Way "Pillar of Justice" Silver Member, 2010-2012

Denton Parks Foundation Board, 2016-2018

In 2013-2014, I was honored to serve as Chair of the Board for the Texas Young Lawyers Association. This is the second largest legal organization in Texas- next to the Texas State Bar. As Chair of this wonderful organization, we organized dozens of charitable events, seminars, and award-winning presentations around the State and the U.S.

In 2013, I was given the opportunity to publish an article in our Texas Bar Journal with the topic of my choosing. I chose to publish an article titled "*Becoming Partner*". This article served as a challenge to all lawyers to give back to and "partner" with their communities (See Tex. Bar J. Dec. 2013 P. 1079). This "partnership" can be as simple as a day volunteering at a shelter or food bank; or, it can be more involved, and include providing free legal service for and/or serving on a non-profit's board of directors.

In my spare time, I also co-created and co-wrote a number of statewide TEKS approved public service videos and teacher resources aimed at educating students on tough topics and matters facing them. These videos and teaching resources tackled difficult topics such as child abuse and underage drinking.

Below are some of those videos and resources, which can all be found at: www.tyla.org.

"The Little Voice: Recognizing Child Abuse and Your Duty to Report It"

"What do Lawyers Do? Interactive Resource for Students Thinking of Law School"

"The Unconscious Truth: Underage Physical and Legal Effects of Underage Binge Drinking"

"Peace of Mind: A Guide for Parents with Children with Special Needs"

"Slavery Out of the Shadows"

Our children are our future. I believe in going out to our schools to promote and educate students, teachers, and parents on changes in our laws that affect them and their daily lives. I also believe in donating time and money to our schools. To support this endeavor, I have served in the following capacity:

Denton I.S.D. Bond Committee Member, 2013-2018

Denton I.S.D. Public School Foundation Advisory Board Member, 2013-2018

Denton I.S.D. Adopt-A-School Mentor, 2007-2015

Denton I.S.D. Education Foundation volunteer and supporter, 2005-2018

Denton I.S.D. Mock Trial Competition Coordinator/Volunteer, 2013-2015

Denton I.S.D. Public School Foundation Grant Committee Award Member, 2012-2016

Lewisville Public Education Foundation Golf Tournament Committee Volunteer, 2014

Denton County Kinship Fair Volunteer, 2009-2016

University of North Texas' Foster Care Alumni Committee, 2013-2014

I adamantly believe attorneys should be leaders in their communities. My community for the first eleven years I was a practicing attorney were the people of Denton County, Texas. To serve this wonderful community of Bastrop in the role as executive director of the Bastrop EDC would truly be a dream come true. To demonstrate my prior commitment, I have volunteered for and served in leadership capacities in the following organizations in Denton County:

Leadership Denton Class of 2008, 2007-2008

Leadership Denton Alumni Committee, 2008-2013

Leadership Denton Steering Committee, 2009-2012

Leadership Denton Co-Chair for Class of 2010, 2009-2010

Leadership Denton General Chair-Elect for Class of 2011, 2010-2011

Leadership Denton General Chair for Class of 2012, 2011-2012

Leadership Denton Selection Committee Member, 2013 & 2017

American Cancer Society: You're Beautiful Volunteer, 2012-2018

SERVICE TO THE BAR & MY PROFESSION

I love the legal profession. It is important to be involved in organizations that support your profession, so I would be involved in economic development organizations in our area of Bastrop/Austin, as well as throughout the state and U.S. I am very active in the State Bar, and its been a honor to serve in various leadership capacities chosen by my peers. Those organizations and leadership roles are as follows:

Texas Young Lawyers Association: Chair of the Board, 2013-2014

Texas Young Lawyers Association: Chair-Elect of the Board, 2012-2013

Texas Young Lawyers Association District 11 Representative, 2010-2013

Texas Young Lawyers Association Executive Committee Chair: Marketing Committee, 2013-2014

Texas Young Lawyers Association Executive Committee Chair: Community Education Committee, 2013-2014
Texas Young Lawyers Association Executive Committee Chair: Local Affiliates Committee, 2012-2013
Texas Young Lawyers Association Executive Committee Chair: Law Student Outreach Committee, 2012-2013
Texas Young Lawyers Association Chair and Vice-Chair: Local Affiliates, 2010-2013
Texas Young Lawyers Association Vice-Chair: Community Education, 2010-2013
Texas Young Lawyers Association Vice-Chair: On-Line Member Services, 2011-2013
Texas Young Lawyer's Association: Nominations Committee, 2015-Present
State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting Committee, 2012-2013
Travis County Bar Association, 2018-Present
State Bar of Texas Member, 2007-Present
Denton Bar Association, 2007-2018
Denton County Young Lawyers Association, 2007-2015
Denton County Young Lawyers Association Board Member, 2010-2015
Denton County Young Lawyers Association Kinship Fair Volunteer, 2009-2015

COURT APPOINTMENTS & COMMISSIONER HUMAN RESOURCE ROLES

I have also been honored to serve the Denton County Commissioners Court and the Denton County Probate Court as a court-appointed Commissioner. In these roles, I presided over and decided a multitude of quasi-judicial employment appeals within Denton County Human Resources, as well as decide market values for condemnation takings.

Denton County Civil Service: County Court-Appointed Commissioner, 2012-2018
Denton County Civil Service Commission Chair, 2016-2018
Denton County Probate Condemnation Commissioner, 2011-2018